

# Ordinances

- ❑ Potentially Dangerous
- ❑ Vicious
- ❑ Reckless Owner

## Calgary

- Vicious Dog
- Nuisance Animal

## Omaha

- Potentially Dangerous
- Dangerous Dog
- Reckless owner

## Comparison

## Calgary

- Complaint driven
- Population of 1.2 million
- 24 ACO
- Fully funded by licensing program

## Omaha

- Complaint driven
- Population 700,000
- 18 ACO
- Humane Society contracts with city to provide all AC services
- City gives them \$700,000 and all licensing fees totaling \$2 million for the enforcement side

# Demographics

- Omaha Dangerous and potentially dangerous, reckless owner ordinance came as the result of a vicious attack on a 2 year old and her mother which took the back half of the scalp off the 2 year old in 2008

**Origin of Ordinance**

## Calgary

- All summons for vicious dog are handled through court system

## Omaha

- Only dangerous dog is handled through court system
- HS can declare dog "potentially dangerous" or owner as "reckless" with formal appeals process
- Dog can be seized by AC and they have 48 hours to get court order
- Owners being charged with dangerous dog must pay shelter fees up front or in 10 days dog becomes property of the city

# Enforcement Proceedings

## **Calgary**

- 12 owners brought to court for vicious dog in 2012

## **Omaha**

- 83 Potentially dangerous dog declarations in 2012
- 16 reckless owner declarations in 2012

**Enforcement results**

## Calgary

- Fines go up 10X so unlicensed vicious dog would be \$2500

## Omaha

- Can be cited at "reckless owner" and have all pets removed and lose ability to live with pets for 4 years
- Currently have 50 former owners with this title

**Penalites for non-compliance**

## Calgary

- # holding title of vicious dog currently=50

## Omaha

- # holding potentially dangerous title=72 (wide variety of breeds, even Chihuahua)
- # holding dangerous title=12 (German Shepherds, Pits, Rots)

**Existing in community**



## Calgary

- Counts all bites that break the skin, even to family members
- Total bites in 2010 was 52

## Omaha

- Counts all bites that break the skin
- Dogs biting family members must be quarantined at vet or shelter if not current on rabies vaccination
- Dogs current on rabies vaccination may be quarantined at home and vet must make health determination at end of 10 days and submit to HS

**Bite reporting**

## Calgary

- Depends on owner's attitude
- Vicious
- Nuisance
- Charges may be dropped

## Omaha

- Depends on severity of bite and owner attitude
- Dangerous
- PDD

**After the bite**

## Calgary

- Number of dead cats picked up in roads decreased 400% when cat licensing went into effect

## Omaha

- Lots of media coverage

**Unintended consequences**

## Calgary

- Don't have to bring in witnesses to testify to get vicious dog conviction-have ACO trained in temperament testing who evaluates the dog and testifies in court

## Omaha

- Do not have to show history of aggression to get PDD or Dangerous dog

**Convictions**

Bill Duncan-retired program manager for the Calgary program said the whole secret to their Success is their high rate of compliance with Licensing of cats and dogs which has lead to Their high RTO rate. Last year they took in 4200 Dogs which includes the dogs that got a free ride Home and never entered the shelter. The city runs Their own shelter but also works closely with the Humane society to share resources.